

Application No.: 09/915,715
Applicants: Axel von Wolff et al.
Amendment in Response to Office Action dated September 3, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

The present listing of the claims replaces all past listings of the claims:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1. (Cancelled).

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2~~ 6 or 7, wherein said hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive is applied to said moving transfer material or said moving backing by the applicator is a slot die and/or the transfer means material is in the form of a roll.

Claim 4 (currently amended). The method as claimed in any of claims ~~1 or 2~~, claim 6 or 7 wherein the percentage fraction of the area coated with the resulting film of hot-melt adhesive composition is between 30% and 99%, preferably from 40% to 95%, with particular preference from 50% to 92%.

Claim 5 (currently amended). The method as claimed in any of claims ~~1 or 2~~ claim 6 or 7, wherein the film of the hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive composition being applied is extended beyond its yield point by tensile and shear forces which are proportional to the ~~difference in speed between the film of the hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive composition and~~ speed of the backing material or transfer means, relative to the application rate of the hot-melt

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pressures sensitive adhesive, and tears, so that the film formed from the hot-melt adhesive composition has voids.

Claim 6 (new) A method of applying a hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive composition to a backing material which comprises

- a) applying a hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive to a moving transfer material at a rate, relative to the speed of the moving transfer material, that causes the applied hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive to form a film on said moving transfer material, and said film to be torn as it is being formed, thereby resulting in a film which comprises voids, and
- b) transferring the film so formed from said moving transfer material to a moving backing material.

Claim 7(new) A method of applying a hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive composition to a backing material which comprises applying a hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive to a moving backing material at a rate, relative to the speed of the moving backing material, that causes the applied hot-melt pressure sensitive adhesive to form a film on said moving transfer material, and said film to be torn as it is being formed, thereby resulting in a film which comprises voids.

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Claim 8 (new) The method as claimed in claim 6 or 7 wherein the percentage of the area coated with the resulting film of hot-melt adhesive composition is between 40% to 95%.

Claim 9 (new) The method as claimed in claim 6 or 7 wherein the percentage of the area coated with the resulting film of hot-melt adhesive composition is between 50% to 92%.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.